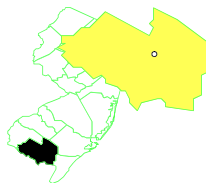


NASCOLITE CORPORATION NEW JERSEY

EPA ID# NJD002362705



EPA REGION 2
CONGRESSIONAL DIST. 02
Cumberland County
In the cities of Millville and Vineland

Site Description

From 1953 to 1980, the Nascolite Corporation manufactured polymethyl methacrylate (poly-MMA) sheets, commonly known as plexiglass or acrylic, at this 17 1/2-acre site. The property lies on Doris Avenue in the cities of Millville and Vineland, in an area zoned residential and industrial.

Approximately 7 acres were used for production; the rest of the site is wooded. Operators stored waste residues from the distillation of scrap acrylic in buried tanks on the site. Liquid wastes leaked from the underground tanks into the surrounding soils and ground water. In 1980, Nascolite ceased operations after being cited and fined by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for illegal discharges. State investigations in 1981 and 1983 disclosed significant concentrations of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in soil and ground water. Inspectors also found more than one hundred 55-gallon drums and several buried tanks, as well as asbestos in abandoned buildings on the site. EPA studies in the mid-1980s confirmed the presence of VOCs and lead in soil and ground water.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' (PRPs') actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 09/01/83

Final Date: 09/01/84

Threats and Contaminants



MMA has been detected in ground water samples. Ground water and soils are contaminated with MMA, other VOCs including vinyl chloride, benzene, toluene, and trichloroethene, and metals such as lead and cadmium. Surface soil samples from a ditch that was alleged to have received wastes from surface water runoff as well as the soil samples from the northern part of the plant/production area showed high concentrations of lead (up to 41,800 parts per million). Sampling of the excavated sludge wastes revealed MMA, phthalates, VOCs, lead, and naphthalene. These buried wastes reportedly were disposed of on site during plant operations.



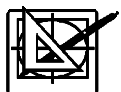
Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in three stages: immediate actions and two longer-term operable units focusing on cleanup of the entire site. The immediate actions reduced the potential for direct contact with lead-contaminated soils and other contaminated wastes. The first operable unit focuses on cleanup of the ground water, while the second operable unit addresses on-site buildings and soils.

Response Action Status



Immediate Actions: In 1981, under State orders, Nascolite removed some contaminated soil and drums from the site. EPA conducted a removal action at the site from November 1987 to March 1988, during which over 100 drums of hazardous waste were removed, a fence was erected, and a tarpaulin was placed over areas where soil was heavily contaminated with inorganic compounds. In addition, waste material storage tanks were cleaned and cut into scrap metal, 20 cubic yards (approximately 32 tons) of MMA-contaminated soil were excavated from the site and 30 cubic yards of asbestos insulation were removed from site buildings. In 1989, the PRPs extended a water line to residences where drinking water was threatened, installing taps, water meters, service connections, and fire hydrants. Roadways were repaved and private lawns were reseeded.



Ground Water Cleanup: EPA selected a remedy for cleaning up ground water in a Record of Decision (ROD) signed in March 1988. It featured: (1) extracting ground water and treating it on site, then reinjecting the cleaned water into the aquifer; (2) performing additional studies to determine the appropriate cleanup measures for contaminated soils, buildings and wetlands on the site; and (3) providing an alternative water supply for potentially

affected residents. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) initiated the engineering design for this remedy in 1988. The design task along with additional investigation and site characterization work was subsequently undertaken by the PRPs in the fall of 1990.



Soils and Buildings: EPA completed a remedial investigation and feasibility study of contaminated soils and buildings on the site in March 1991. A ROD was signed in June 1991 which selected a remedy for the on-site soils, wetlands and buildings. The selected remedy consists of on-site structure demolition, including asbestos abatement, with appropriate disposal, followed by excavation of unsaturated and wetlands soils contaminated above cleanup standards. EPA plans to send the contaminated soils off-site for treatment and disposal. The affected wetlands will undergo restoration. Appropriate environmental monitoring will be performed to ensure the effectiveness of the remedy.

Site Facts: In September 1987, EPA sent the property owner a Notice Letter to offer the opportunity to conduct emergency cleanup actions at the site. The owner declined to participate in the site cleanup. EPA has identified additional PRPs who have performed cleanup actions at the site. The PRPs constructed, and are operating, a ground water remediation system at the site.

Environmental Progress

Initial cleanup work, including removal and isolation of contaminated soils, disposal of solid and liquid wastes, fencing the site, and the provision of an alternate drinking water supply, has been completed at the Nascolite Corporation site. These actions eliminated the immediate threats to the nearby public and the environment while long-term remediation was planned.

The design of the ground water remediation system was completed in June 1995. Construction began in September 1995 and was completed in August 1996. Operation of the ground water remediation system is ongoing.

The remedial design of the second operable unit, buildings and soils, was completed in February 1995. Remedial construction was planned for the fall of 1995; however, due to federal budget restrictions, the project was halted until funds became available in September 1998.

A remedial action contract for the demolition of the former Nascolite Corporation buildings was awarded on October 26, 1999. The demolition contractor mobilized to the site on November 23, 1999. The work was completed on May 31, 2000.

EPA and the COE are now reviewing and updating the remedial design for the cleanup of the soils at the site. The actual cleanup work is expected to begin in 2002.

